



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|

10/765,142

01/28/2004

Hiroyuki Watanabe

04329.3229

9726

22852

7590

10/10/2006

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER
LLP

901 NEW YORK AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20001-4413

EXAMINER

ASSESSOR, BRIAN J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2114

DATE MAILED: 10/10/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/765,142 | Applicant(s) WATANABE ET AL. | |
| | Examiner Brian J. Assessor | Art Unit 2114 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 July 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>3/9/2006</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis (5,666,481) in view of Windows XP Wireless User Guide (<http://support.gateway.com/support/manlib/Desktops/8508344/8508344.htm>, herein referred to as "User Guide") .

As per claim 1:

An information processing apparatus comprising:

a network device configured to be connectable to a network; (Lewis column 4, lines 48-50)

a diagnosis unit which performs a diagnosis of a network connection of the network device; (Lewis column 5, lines 13-17)

a second display control unit which displays a portion of the network connection where a problem of the network connection is detected by the diagnosis on the connection diagram; (Lewis column 5, 53-55)

a third display control unit which displays a message to indicate a solution to the detected problem on the display device. (Lewis column 7, lines 4-5)

Lewis does not explicitly disclose a display control unit which displays a connection diagram showing a connection between the network device and the network on a display device of the information processing apparatus.

In the User Guide, Section – Checking network signal strength, Element 5, the User Guide clearly discloses a method in which a network device displays its network connection information and status of the connection. In column 5, 53-55, Lewis makes mention of displaying network information but not specifically the connection information. It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in art at the time of invention to use the wireless connection system as taught by the User Guide in order to better supply information concerning the available wireless networks and connections to the user. This would have been obvious because the User Guide shows that this is a widely used system for connecting devices to wireless networks, using Windows XP.

As per claim 2:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the third display control unit includes a unit which displays a message and a button to initialize the network device on the display device when a problem that the network device is not connected to the network is detected by the diagnosis, (User Guide, Section – Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off; inherent; when attempting to access a wireless

network and the wireless card feature is “disabled” a message will appear displaying to the user that the wireless feature is disabled and a button will be available to enable the wireless feature.)

the information processing apparatus further comprises a unit which initializes the network device in response to an operation of the button. (User Guide, Section – Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off, Element 5)

As per claim 3:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the network device includes a wireless network device configured to perform wireless communication, the information processing apparatus further comprises an operation switch to switch the wireless network device between an operating state and a nonoperating state, and the diagnosis unit includes a unit configured to determine which of the operating state and the nonoperating state is selected to set the wireless network device by the operation switch. (User Guide Section: Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off, element 5)

As per claim 4:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the third display control unit includes a unit which displays a message to switch the wireless network device to the operating state by the operation switch on the display device

Art Unit: 2114

when it is determined that the wireless network device is set in the nonoperating state.

(User Guide, Section: Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off, element 5)

As per claim 5:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the third display control unit includes a unit which displays a message and a button to switch the wireless network device to the operating state by the operation switch on the display device when it is determined that the wireless network device is set in the nonoperating state, (User Guide, Section – Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off; inherent; when attempting to access a wireless network and the wireless card feature is “disabled” a message will appear displaying to the user that the wireless feature is disabled and a button will be available to enable the wireless feature.)

the information processing apparatus further comprises a unit which switches the wireless network device to the operating state in response to an operation of the button. (User Guide, Section – Turning your wireless Ethernet on or off, Element 5)

As per claim 6:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the diagnosis unit includes a unit configured to determine whether the network device is connected to the network and a unit configured to determine whether the apparatus is communicable to a remote host on the network when it is detected that the network

device is connected to the network. (inherent; once connected to a wireless network, access to "My Network Places" will show the available machines that are accessible)

As per claim 7:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the network device includes a wireless network device configured to perform wireless communication, (User Guide, Section Creating a wireless Ethernet network, Access Point)

the information processing apparatus further comprises a unit which displays, on the connection diagram, information indicating whether an encryption key to encrypt data transferred between the wireless network device and the network is set in the network device. (User Guide, Section – Creating a Wireless Network, elements 10-15; inherent; if a wireless network is set up with an encryption key, then the display of available networks would show this and when a connection to that network is made a key will be required.)

As per claim 8:

The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the third display control unit includes a unit which displays a message to indicate a solution to the detected problem on the display device with reference to information that defines solutions of different problems that are predetermined for the network connection of the network device. (Lewis column 3, line 65 – column 4, line 4; column 7, lines 4-5)


Claims 9-16 respectfully are method claims corresponding to the apparatus claims 1-8. Therefore, claims 9-16 are rejected for the same rationale set forth in claims 1-8.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian J. Assessor whose telephone number is (571) 272-0825. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Baderman can be reached on (571)272-3644. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.


SCOTT BADERMAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER